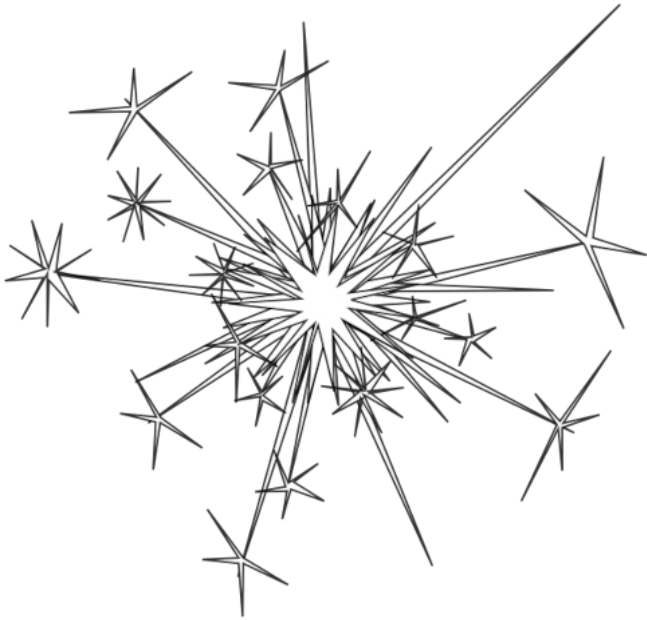


The Ovington Oracle

November, 2024



With *Bonfire Night* events imminent, or already in progress (2 weeks early in the case of Watton Town Council!)

Please consider that animals and pets can be scared by the noise and flashes; be considerate with fire and smoke; have fun and stay safe.



A quote from an inventor, linguist, novelist & philosopher:

"I like spring, but it is too young. I like summer, but it is too proud. So I like best of all autumn, because its tone is mellower, its colours are richer, and it is tinged with a little sorrow. Its golden richness speaks not of the innocence of spring, nor the power of summer, but of the mellowness and kindly wisdom of approaching age. It knows the limitations of life and its content."

Lin Yutang (1895-1976)



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Village events this month:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1 VH	2	3 C
4 VH	5 Y	6 B	7	8	9	10 C
11 VH	12 Y	13 B	14	15	16	17 C
18 VH	19 Y	20 B	21	22	23	24 C
25 VH	26 Y	27 B	28	29 YC	30 VH	

VH=Village Hall, C=Church,
Y=Yoga, YC=Youth Club, B=Bowls

Parish Council: ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Oracle back copies (and more): ovington.org.uk

Village Hall: ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

Village Messages

Harvest Festival Food Donations:

A big "Thank You" to all those who donated food and produce for our Harvest Festival service at St John's. We took the bumper collection of produce to Jo at the Watton Food bank. She and her crew were very, very pleased to receive it and send their heartfelt thanks to the folk of Ovington Village.

Gill Welsted & Jane Lambert

Advance Notice of Church Special Event:

Sunday 22 Dec – 6:00pm **Carol Service**

We look forward to seeing you at this special service.

Jean Rockett-Woods

Norfolk Churches Cycle Ride:

My thanks to all who sponsored me for the Norfolk Churches Cycle Ride. I managed to cycle to 9 Churches in a circular route, Ovington, Carbrooke, Watton St Mary's (who had a Macmillan Coffee Morning running and so I stocked up with cake for my journey!!), Griston, Caston, Stow Bedon, Thompson, Merton and Saham Toney. The weather was just right, sunny but not hot, traffic was minimal and I survived!! Great day out from 09:30am to 3:15pm meeting many other cyclists on the way!!

Sponsorship raised £80 (£40 of which was Gift Aided); that will be split equally between St John's Church and the Norfolk Churches Trust. For your info: The Norfolk Churches Trust gives out grants to churches for restoration work; they have supported St John's in the past and I'm sure will do so again in the future. Again, my thanks to all.

Dave Welsted

Parish Council (PC)

Laurie Shepherd – Parish Clerk

An edited report from the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 2 October

Matters Arising:

The PC was disappointed with reply sent 'on behalf' of P Hewett to the Breckland Council car parking charge queries. TB to draft a response asking for the points raised to be answered.

Correspondence:

District Councillor reports from PB and Helen Crane are on the web-site.

Planning:

3PN/2024/0025/UC, the subject of a PC extraordinary meeting on 14 August, has status "Prior Approval Refused".

Note: PC comments were submitted however item 7 was redacted by Breckland Council. The PC agreed to send the query drafted by TB to request clarification.

3PL/2024/0474/HOU (4 The Street, IP25 6RX): "Approved"

Finance:

Payments Received

Clerk repayment for taxes	£20.40
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Payments to be made

Clerks reimbursements	£35.80
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HMRC quarterly taxes	£202.08
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Ovington PCC Green Spaces	£50.00
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Village updates:

DW noted an action from January to install a sign to discourage dog fouling on the field adjacent the allotments. While the issue is diminished there may still be a need for a sign. DW and TB to discuss wording.

PB noted that the bin near the village hall had rotted through, TB has a new bin and will liaise with PB.

JW has mowed and strimmed the area around village sign and edges of Crown Crescent and is willing to continue.

Adjournment for public participation:

District Councillor Paul Plummer looking to step into County Councillor Ed Connolly's role at the May election following boundary changes.

Next Meeting:

Note revised date of 4 December in the Village Hall at 7:30pm

PC documents at:

ovingtonclerk.wixsite.com/home

Remembrance Day Coffee Morning

Gill Welsted & Jane Lambert

Please join us at St John's Church for a special Remembrance Day Coffee Morning on Saturday 9 November from 10:00am until noon. As usual there will be displays of wartime memorabilia and an audio visual show of the wartime bombers that flew from RAF Watton. We will be serving tea & coffee and home-made cakes.

The Church will also be decorated in readiness for the Remembrance Service on Sunday 10 November (10:30am)

And ... we will be selling raffle tickets for one big box of goodies! All proceeds made on the day will go to the British legion and the St John's Church restoration fund.

Jane & Gill

Rainfall

Tim



According to weather station "Icarus":

Total rainfall for September was 85.9mm (3 ³/₈").

As of 24 October the monthly running total stood at 92.7mm.

Village Hall (VH)

Mike Howes (Village Hall Trustee)

Events Review

Monday 14 October we welcomed our Oddfellow friends to join us for our Coffee Morning .

Our ladies excelled themselves as usual providing delicious cakes and sausage rolls together with many cups of coffee and tea,

We also had a raffle, a good time was had by all.

Saturday 19 October we had our quiz night.

Approx 40 quizzers arrived to pit their wits with fairly difficult rounds on General knowledge, Shakespeare quotes, gone but not forgotten, human body, picture rounds etc.

We had a break half way through where we had a raffle and tea and coffee. Everybody enjoyed themselves although going home somewhat brain-dead.

Thanks go to our brilliant quiz master Stewart, Mike for the questions and Jane for the raffle.

Forthcoming Events

We have a very busy remainder of the year, please come and support us.

Pot of Gold – 1 November. 7:30 pm start time

The Shanty Singers. We have been waiting for this event for several months and it promises to be a great evening. Tickets are £10 each from Kaz.

Festive Fair – 30 November

Soup and cake will be provided. £10 per table if you wish to sell anything for Christmas.

Festive afternoon Tea (very popular!) – 15 December.

You will need to book early as tickets sell out very quick. Prices are £15 for adults and £10 for under 10 years old.

New Year's Party – 31 December.

This is usually a great night with games, karaoke and dancing. You

will need to provide your own refreshments and food.

Looking to 2025, you will need to book these events early as they sold out very quickly this year.

Dan Starr returning for the third time – 17 January

Those of you who attended his last performance (especially you ladies) know what a great evening you all had.

Curry Evening – 15 February

This was incredibly popular this year as we have been asked many times when will this return. A great choice of curries will be provided by our ladies, under the watchful eye of our chief chef Stewart.

Tickets to any of these events can be purchased from Kaz on 07880935765 or pop in to any of our Monday coffee mornings.

Training

First aid resuscitation course – Sunday 8 December 2:30-4:30pm

The previous course held was excellent and is a must for everyone to learn.

This course will be a follow on from the previous course concentrating on defibrillator training and crowd control.

We need at least 10 people to attend. Course will last approx 2.5 hours.

Committee Meeting – 16 October

Forthcoming events were discussed.

Treasurer's report: Bank balance is looking good. Village Hall will be insured with Access for £669

Maintenance:

- The committee room has been redecorated (with thanks to Mike & Sam) and we have two quotes for carpet tiles.
- Fence surrounding the hall needs to be re-stained for winter.
- Drain outside the hall needs to be investigated as it sometimes floods. Stewart to bring his camera to see if there are any blockages.

A note to end

Remember all your bottles after Christmas can be disposed of with our bottle bank, with funds going to the village hall. Also any old clothing you do not want can be recycled via the clothes bank.

The village hall is available to rent. £50 deposit and £6 per hour for Ovington residents

ovingtonvillagehall.co.uk

The VH Trustees

Youth Club

Kaz Mason



Meets last Friday of the month
at the Village Hall

For ages 8–14 years
6:00 – 8:00pm

FREE entry, squash & biscuits

Tuck-shop selling: Milkshakes, Fizzy
Drinks, Crisps, Chocolate Bars, Sweets
and Home-made Goodies.

Check our Facebook page for updates:
Ovington Youth Club, Norfolk

To ensure enough adult helpers please
TXT or call if you wish your child to attend.

Kaz & Jo (Ovington Youth Club Leaders) – 07880935765

Celebrant

Karen Weir

Hello one and all.

It's been a busy September for me, as some of you will have seen, I took part in the Boo and Hiss production of 'The Vicar of Dibley'. It was great fun! Mrs Cropley was a dream to play. Dodgy baking and sitting doing my crocheting! What's not to love!

Whilst 'studying' for my part by watching lots of the TV series episodes, I found one where Geraldine performed a service for a parishioners pet. It was so sweet.

So I've decided to offer that service too, in my role as a local celebrant. I've looked at some readings for this and found a very beautiful and poignant poem, which I'm sharing with you now (hankies at the ready):

If it should be that I grow weak
and pain should keep me from my sleep.
Then you must do what must be done,
for this last battle cannot be won.

You will be sad, I understand.
Don't let your grief then stay your hand.
For this day more than all the rest,
your love for me must stand the test.

We've had so many happy years,
what is to come can hold no fears.
You'd not want me to suffer so.
The time has come, please let me go.

Take me where my needs they'll tend
and please stay with me until the end.
Hold me firm and speak to me,
until my eyes no longer see.

I know in time that you will see,
the kindness that you did for me.
Although my tail its last has waved,
from pain and suffering I've been saved.

Please do not grieve it must be you
who had this painful thing to do.
We've been so close, we two, these years.
Don't let your heart hold back its tears.

author unknown

Church News

Jean Rockett-Woods (JR-W)

Services:

3 Nov – 10:30am	Holy Communion	(Revd. Adrian Bell)
10 Nov – 10:30am	Remembrance Sunday	(JR-W)
17 Nov – 10:30am	Family Service	(JR-W)
24 Nov – 10:30am	Book of Common Prayer	(JR-W)



Hi to all in our lovely readers of out Ovington Oracle. I hope that you are all keeping well, safe, and warm. This month, on Sunday 10 November, we will be remembering all who gave their lives during the First and Second World Wars, and all who have died since, so that we can be free, and keep us safe from tyrannical rulers. We will also be

remembering all who survived these dreadful wars, but continue to relive each day as if it was yesterday.

My dearest Dad was a young merchant sailor when the Second World War started. He enlisted into the Royal Navy as a ships gunner. After being a survivor, of his ships being sunk, he was pensioned off due to a mental breakdown through the awful things that he had seen and experienced. My mum told me how he would be half dressed and downstairs before he realised that the alarm came from the bedroom clock, and not the ships call to action.

Despite the horrors that he had seen, and experienced, he went back to fight for our country, this time rejoining the Merchant Service. Again he experienced his ships being sunk, 5 times in all, and was once again relieved of his duties. He returned to helping our country as a bus driver, a warden during air raids, or anywhere else he was needed.

Please think of and pray for those in the war-torn countries of today, both those in the Middle East and the Ukraine, and ask that these wars will soon come to an end.

My daily prayers are for you all. May God bless you all and keep you all well and safe.

With love in Christ,

Jean (07749 870485)

Out of Village Events

Fiona Rout

NORFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST (Breckland Local Group)

We are now into our talks season, having finished our walks with a Fungus Foray at East Wretham Heath. Due to it being early in Autumn and the weather conditions, there weren't too many fungi species to find, but we still found some more unusual ones for Dr Tony Leech to take home and confirm their identity for us. At least the weather was dry, unlike last time when we got soaked!



The talk this month is Lynne and Tony Fry giving a talk on Sustainability and Conservation on their Sussex Friary garden.

Meet at the Methodist Centre, High Street, Watton IP25 6QU for a 7:30pm start. Cost is £3 non-members, £2 NWT members. There will be a raffle and refreshments will be served.

Please note that in other publications you may see the start time as ~~6:30pm~~, this is incorrect, all our talks start at 7:30pm

Next talk (same place and time):

- On 11 December Will Russel NWT Lead Officer Woods and Heaths will give a talk on Adders.

Christine Hardy

Hardingham Textile Group Exhibition

Hardingham Textile Group will be holding a one day exhibition and sale of work on Saturday 9th November from 10:30am to 4:00pm at Hardingham Village Hall (just outside Hingham).

This is our first exhibition since we had to cancel one four years ago due to Covid so we are looking forward to seeing many old and new friends. There will be a wide range of work on display, some of which will be for sale.

Entry is free and as usual there will be refreshments and a tombola.

And Finally ...

Tim

A few curious facts about November:

- November is usually the time of the year that cold winds start to chill you, the Anglo Saxon's called it "Wind Monath," or wind month.
- November was the ninth month in the ancient Roman calendar, 'novem' translates directly as nine in Latin.
- In Finland, the word for November is Marraskuu, meaning the month of the dead. It sounds ominous but the reason for the name is because all the seasonal trees and plants lose their leaves or appear to die.
- In all of William Shakespeare's writing, 154 sonnets and 37 plays, not once does he mention November; is that just coincidence or did he not like November?

Submission deadline for next issue: 22 November
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